

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - MAY 3, 2011

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Moderator Thomas Gage in the TACPAC of Mt Everett School. Moderator attested to the proper service of the warrant and to the presence of a quorum. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence observed for military personnel and deceased firefighters and police. Town Officials were introduced. The Moderator gave the instructions for the meeting.

Motion made and seconded to waive the reading of the Warrant. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

At this meeting the following actions took place:

ARTICLE 1: No reports were given.

ARTICLE 2: Motion made and seconded to raise and appropriate the following amounts to defray charges and expenses to the Town, to set the salaries of elected officials, including salaries of certain Town Officers and employees, debt and interest, and to provide for a reserve fund, all beginning July 1, 2011 for the ensuing twelve months.

Motion carried by majority hand count vote. All items raise and appropriate unless otherwise noted.

1. OFFICIALS AND BOARDS	\$ 312,395.00
A. Accounting Officer Expense	500.00
B. Accounting Officer	13,790.00
C. Agricultural Commission	400.00
D. Assessors' Clerical	3,182.00
E. Assessors' Consulting	26,200.00
F. Assessors' Expense	4,000.00
G. Assessor Salary #1	4,632.00
H. Assessor Salary # 2	4,632.00

I. Assessor Salary #3	4,632.00
J. Board of Appeals Expense	100.00
K. Board of Health Expense	5,000.00
L. Board of Health Director	22,253.00
M. Bd. Of Heath Agent Wages	14,105.00
N. Bd. Of Health Food Inspector	677.00
O. Building Inspector Salary	24,533.00
P. Asst. Building Inspector	600.00
Q. Conservation Comm. Expense	475.00
R. Constable's Salary	534.00
S. Finance Committee Expense	400.00
T. Inspectors' Expenses	3,000.00
U. Planning Board Expense	2,475.00
V. Planning Board Wages	400.00
W. Sel. Office Administrator	50,733.00
X. Selectmen Office Expense	13,100.00
Y. Selectman Salary #1	5,390.00
Z. Selectman Salary #2	4,901.00
AA. Selectman Salary #3	4,901.00
BB. Town Clerk Expense	2,755.00
CC. Town Clerk Salary	8,214.00
DD. Town Hall Office Clerk	20,902.00
EE. Treasurer/Collector Expense	9,140.00
FF. Treasurer/Collector Salary	48,549.00
GG. Treasurer/Collector Clerk	7,290.00

2. TOWN EXPENSES \$ 185,146.00

A. Animal Control Officer	2,292.00
B. Animal Control Expense	1,200.00
C. Audit	5,050.00
D. Board of Registrars' Salary	50.00
E. Compactor Operation	72,845.00
F. Compact Operator Salary	18,786.00
G. Compactor Substitute Wages	4,300.00
H. Computer Expense	29,318.00
I. Drug and Alcohol Tests	850.00

J. Egremont Newsletter	3,500.00
K. Election Wages	1,700.00
L. Group Purchasing	775.00
M. High Speed Internet	3,560.00
N. Historical Commission Expense	1,600.00
O. Inspector of Animals	500.00
P. Legal Expenses	500.00
Q. Legal Fees	7,500.00
R. Litigation	5,000.00
S. Moderator	220.00
T. School Committee	1,842.00
U. School Crossing Guard	5,058.00
V. So. Berkshire Chamber of Commerce	250.00
W. Town Report	650.00
X. Town Telephone	3,300.00
Y. Veterans' Benefits	14,000.00
Z. Zoning Bylaws	500.00

3. TOWN MAINTENANCE \$ 150,823.00

A. Bldg Maint. General Exp.	13,010.00
B. Bldg Maint Utility Exp.	39,211.00
C. Building Maintenance Wages	10,981.00
D. Maintenance Superintendent	41,810.00
E. Cemetery Maintenance	100.00
F. French Park Maintenance	5,431.00
G. French Park Overtime Wages	3,841.00
H. French Park Wages	10,358.00
I. Public Lighting	4,100.00
J. Building Improvements	3,698.00
K. Tree Work	12,500.00
L. Tree Warden	5,783.00

4. HIGHWAYS \$ 438,602.00

A. Const & Maint Wages	5,000.00
B. Construction & Maintenance	178,500.00
C. Personnel Member Foreman	38,397.00

D. Personnel Member B	35,823.00
E. Personnel Member C	35,318.00
F. Superintendent Salary	51,000.00
G. Snow & Ice Removal	70,000.00
H. Snow & Ice Removal Wages	24,564.00
5. LIBRARY	\$ 26,929.00
A. Expenses	8,325.00
B. Librarian's Salary	17,719.00
C. Library Substitute Wages	885.00
6. POLICE	\$ 292,071.00
A. Chief Expenses	2,700.00
B. Chief Salary	60,995.00
C. Collective Bargaining	182,301.00
D. Department Expenses	10,899.00
E. Police Wages - Secretary	13,464.00
F. Vehicle Expense	21,712.00
7. FIRE & EMERGENCY	\$ 87,732.00
A. Dispatch Facilities	8,332.00
B. Emergency Management	3,700.00
C. Emergency Management Wages	2,500.00
D. Fire Department Expense	40,000.00
E. Draft Hydrants	5,000.00
F. Firefighters Stipend	25,000.00
G. Forest Fires	1,000.00
H. Street Number 911	200.00
I. Alert-Now Rapid Notification	1,500.00
J. So Berkshire Reg Emergency Planning	500.00
K. Fire Accident Wages	0.00
L. Fire Accident Benefits	0.00
8. DEBT AND INTEREST	\$ 34,584.00

A. Interest Short Term Debt	1.00
B. Fire Truck Loan-Trans from Free Cash	(67,056.00)
C. Loader Loan	34,583.00
9. HUMAN SERVICE	\$ 22,883.00
A. Brien Center/Mental Health	958.00
B. Berk South Community Center	1,000.00
C. Community Health Programs	1,000.00
D. Berk Comm Action Council	1,000.00
E. Construct, Inc	400.00
F. Council on Aging	1,950.00
G. Eagle Fund	1,000.00
H. Egremont Garden Club	200.00
I. Elizabeth Freeman Center	500.00
J. Fairview Hospital	1,500.00
K. Housatonic Valley Assoc	250.00
L. Hospice of So Berkshire	750.00
M. Lee VNA	4,200.00
N. Railroad Street Youth Project	1,500.00
O. So Berkshire Elderly Transport	6,275.00
P. So Berkshire Literacy Network	400.00
10. INSURANCE	\$ 394,899.00
A. Health/Dental	182,433.00
B. Pension	114,016.00
C. Property & Casualty	78,000.00
D. Social Security/Medicare	12,150.00
E. Unemployment	8,300.00
11. RESERVE FUND	\$ 25,000.00
12. SCHOOLS	\$ 1,410,727.00
A. Operating & Transport	1,395,054.00
B. Capital Costs	15,673.00

TOTAL LINE ITEM R & A	\$ 3,381,791.00
TOTAL LINE ITEM TRANSFER	67,056.00
TOTAL ARTICLES R & A	89,000.00
TOTAL ARTICLES TRANSFER	
Free Cash	139,481.00
Stabilization	150,000.00
Water	156,245.00
TOTAL R & A BUDGET	\$ 3,470,791.00
TOTAL BORROW	\$ 365,000.00

TOTAL BUDGET

ARTICLE 3: Motion made and seconded to raise the following sums to operate the Egremont Water department, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Water Commissioners. The following sums to be appropriated for/to the Water Enterprise Fund.

A. Debt Service	\$ 71,000.00
B. Water Operating Exp	23,500.00
C. Salaries/Wages	65,795.00
D. Utilities	14,500.00
E. Office Expenses	1,000.00
F. Water Sys, Maint, Repair, Replacement, Upgrade	35,000.00
G. Audit	2,450.00
H. Insurance	21,000.00
Total:	\$ 234,245.00

and that the necessary funds be raised as follows:

Water Department Revenues	\$ 156,245.00
Tax Levy	78,000.00

Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 4: Motion made and seconded for the Town to approve the vote of the Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee authorizing the borrowing of up to \$3,000,000.00, as allowed by MGL Chapter 71, Section 16(d), in order to pay for the costs of remodeling and making extraordinary repairs to various school buildings of the SBRSD, and to pay costs of purchasing various items of capital equipment for general technology upgrades and building improvements and upgrades, and for payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 5: Motion made and seconded to have the Board of Selectmen take all necessary and appropriate action to establish and to maintain, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 164 of the General Laws and in accordance with the rules, regulations, and orders of the Department of Public Laws and in accordance with the rules, regulations, and orders of the Department of Telecommunications & Cable, a municipal lighting plant for all allowable purposes under the laws of the Commonwealth, including without limitation the operation of a telecommunications system and any related services.

Action on this Article required a 2/3 vote on written ballot. Motion carried by a vote of 114 Yes to 14 No.

ARTICLE 6: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,000.00 to pay the necessary fee to join the WiredWest organization in order to help bring Broadband to the residents of Egremont. Motion carried by a majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 7: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$265,000.00 and to transfer from Stabilization Fund the sum of \$150,000.00 to total \$415,000.00 to construct a new Police

Facility for the Egremont Police Department. Authorization to borrow requires a written ballot. Motion carried by a vote of 102 Yes to 24 No.

ARTICLE 8: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,981.00 for the purchase of new defibrillators. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 9: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00, as itemized below, for repairs and engineering for the Draft Hydrant Committee:

- \$ 1,850.00 Drought Study
- \$ 950.00 Complete Boice Rd. evaluation, design plans, bid, certify
- \$ 8,500.00 Remediation of Boice Rd. hydrants
- \$ 1,650.00 Rowe Rd. evaluation, design plans, bid and certify
- \$ 2,050.00 Remediation of Rowe Rd.

Motion carried by a majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 10: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$45,000.00 and to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$100,000.00 to total \$145,000.00 to purchase a new truck for the Egremont Highway Department. Town bylaw requires written ballot to authorize borrowing. Motion made and seconded to suspend this Bylaw which requires a written ballot for this Article only. Motion carried by a majority hand count vote. Motion to purchase a new truck carried by a hand count vote of 85 Yes to 3 No (2/3 approval necessary).

ARTICLE 11: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$30,000.00 to purchase a new police cruiser. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 12: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 to conduct a needs study on the Egremont Library Building. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 13: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000.00 to establish a special Stabilization Fund to cover costs of

future retiree benefits, as required by GASB 45. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

Article 14: Motion made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000.00 for repair and maintenance projects at Town cemeteries. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 15: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$22,500.00 for a drainage system at the Little League Field at French Park. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 16: Motion made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to pay to the Friends of Prospect Lake to help with the costs of weed control at Prospect Lake. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 17: Motion made and seconded to accept funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of town ways and bridges. Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 18: Motion made and seconded to authorize the use of revolving funds for the following programs and purposes;

- a. French Park (\$2,000.00)
- b. Home Composting Bibs (\$500.00)
- c. Zoning Board of Appeals (\$1,000.00)
- d. Dog Fund (\$1,000.00)
- e. Inspector Wages (\$15,000) (exceptions: Building Inspector and Health Inspector)

which revolving funds together shall not exceed the sum of \$19,500.00, which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately and to which shall be credited only the departmental receipts received in connection with the programs supported by each revolving fund; further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend such funds in accordance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 as amended by Section 72 and 73 of the Acts of 1994 of the

Massachusetts General Laws, provided, however, that said expenditures for all revolving funds shall not exceed receipts for such funds.

Motion carried by majority hand count vote.

ARTICLE 19: This motion was withdrawn.

ARTICLE 20: No action taken under this Article.

Meeting dissolved at 10:05.

Margaret A Muskrat
Egremont Town Clerk